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LABOR MARKET DIMENSIONS

A Monthly Report on the Dynamics of the Labor Market in Maryland

November, 1987

Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION
1100 North Eutaw Street
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Secretary

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Governor

LABOR MARKET DIMENSIONS
NOVEMBER, 1987

MARYLAND

UNEMPLOYMENT EDGES UP

Maryland's unemployment rate edged up slightly from 4.0 percent in October to 4.1 in November, marking the second month of rising unemployment. The over the month increase in the jobless rate positioned this November's estimate marginally above that of 4.0 percent recorded last year.

The upturn in Maryland's jobless estimate countered the national forecast which showed unemployment falling from 5.7 percent in October to 5.6 percent in November. The decline in the national jobless estimate occurred despite a drop of 89,000 in the number of workers recorded between October and November.

	November 1987	October 1987	November 1986
Civilian Labor Force	2,404,501	2,403,613	2,384,667
Total Employment	2,305,003	2,306,420	2,289,464
Total Unemployment	99,498	97,193	95,203
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.0	4.0
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.7	6.6

LABOR FORCE GAINS ADD TO JOBLESS COUNT

Between October and November, nearly 900 persons entered the job market in search of employment, bringing the statewide labor force to a total of 2,404,501. This year's labor force expansion contrasted sharply with last year's experience which showed the labor force receding by slightly more than 3,900 persons. Meanwhile, seasonal layoffs pulled the number of working Marylanders down by 1,417 persons over the month. The impact created by an expanding labor force, in the face of declining employment, was clearly visible on the jobless rolls which increased by slightly more than 2,300 persons through November.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLLS ADD OVER 4,000 JOBS

Maryland's industrial payrolls increased by an estimated 4,300 jobs during November, following the addition of 8,500 jobs the previous month. Last year, the advance in nonagricultural payrolls was much stronger, with job gains measured at 23,200 over the October-November period.

SERVICE PROVIDERS LEAD THE WAY

Job gains were scattered throughout the industrial spectrum during November, however, service-producing industries exerted the primary influence on nonagricultural payrolls by adding an estimated 4,000 jobs. In anticipation of the holiday season, trade establishments boosted their payrolls by 3,600 jobs. Hiring activity in department stores translated into gains of nearly 1,800 jobs, however, holiday hiring extended beyond this industrial sector. Additional hiring was also reported by food stores, apparel shops, furniture stores, and eating/drinking establishments. Meanwhile, in the services industries, seasonal declines continued to taper payrolls in hotels and amusement/recreation. The depth of the overall decline in the services sector was minimized somewhat by modest gains in health, personal services, and auto repair facilities.

On the goods-producing side of the economy, manufacturing employment increased by an estimated 200 jobs. The job increase in manufacturing, however, was largely attributable to recall activity rather than to actual new job generation. The settlement of labor management disputes in both apparel/textiles and chemical products enabled workers to return to their jobs. These recalls helped to compensate for declining payrolls in food processing and primary metals. In construction, the normal seasonal drop-off in building and repair activity caused employment to recede by nearly 1,600 jobs.

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)

NOVEMBER 1987

Major Industry Grouping	November 1987	October 1987	November 1986
Total Nonagricultural Employment	2005.9	2001.6	1991.6
Manufacturing	208.4	208.2	209.5
Durable Goods	109.3	109.4	109.7
Nondurable Goods	99.1	98.8	99.8
Nonmanufacturing	1797.5	1793.4	1782.1
Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7
Construction	145.8	147.4	145.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	94.1	94.0	92.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	516.5	512.9	511.0
Wholesale Trade	113.5	113.4	110.1
Retail Trade	403.0	399.5	400.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	121.3	121.1	119.7
Services	525.2	525.6	514.1
Total Government	392.9	390.7	398.0
Federal	126.5	126.5	132.1
State	91.7	90.8	92.3
Local	174.7	173.4	173.6

The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Additional industry detail available upon request.
Current data preliminary; previous month revised.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

Unemployment in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area stabilized in November, holding at its October rate of 4.5 percent. This November's jobless rate, which is running slightly below that of 4.6 percent recorded last year, marks the lowest level for a November since the recording of regional estimates in 1980. Within the metropolitan area, local unemployment rates ranged from 2.4 percent in Howard County to 6.8 percent in Baltimore City. In the BMA, industrial payrolls were boosted by the addition of 2,000 jobs over the month. Employment gains in retail trade, particularly in department, apparel, and food stores, dominated the November job forecast.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

In Maryland's D.C. suburbs, the jobless scenario also remained relatively low key over the month. While the actual number of people on the region's jobless rolls did decline by 219 through November, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.0 percent. During November, slightly more than 2,400 area residents found employment. Those industries which provided the best potential for hire included department stores, eating/drinking establishments, food stores, and apparel retailers. Additionally, slightly more than 100 new jobs were generated by the area's defense industry. These and other sporadic increases neutralized seasonal drops in construction and services payrolls.

WESTERN MARYLAND

Increased joblessness during November was the most prevalent in the Western Maryland region. During November, the number of unemployed residents in the Western Area rose to 8,177, up from 7,198 in October. This 979 rise in idled workers caused the November jobless rate to move from 7.2 percent to 8.2 percent. Last November's unemployment increase was relatively modest, with unemployment volume rising by just 174 persons and the jobless rate heading up by a mere 0.3 percentage points. All of the western counties experienced increased unemployment over the month, however, Allegany was the only county whose estimate topped the 10.0 percent mark. Throughout the region, seasonal declines in construction and furloughs in manufacturing contributed to this increased level of joblessness.

BALANCE OF STATE

November labor market activity in the Balance of State Area also showed signs of increasing joblessness. The net result of November's scenario was the addition of 1,466 persons to the area's jobless rolls - an increase which was fueled by employment declines and compounded by a slight increase in the size of the area's labor pool. Overall joblessness in the region rose from 5.0 percent in October to 5.8 percent in November. Unemployment rates escalated in all of the shore counties, with the exception of Talbot and Wicomico. Somerset and Worcester, the two eastern counties most affected by seasonal employment related to agriculture, tourism, and other outdoor activities, experienced the largest increases in jobless rates.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY - BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--NOVEMBER 1987

Major Industry Grouping	Baltimore Metropolitan Area		Maryland Portion D.C. Suburbs		Western Maryland		Balance of State	
	Nov. 1987	Oct.1987	Nov. 1987	Oct.1987	Nov. 1987	Oct.1987	Nov. 1987	Oct.1987
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1077.8	1075.8	721.1	718.4	84.1	84.4	128.7	129.1
Manufacturing	131.3	131.4	35.8	35.5	16.6	16.7	23.6	23.7
Durable Goods	72.4	72.9	19.7	19.5	-	-	-	-
Nondurable Goods	58.9	58.5	16.0	16.0	-	-	-	-
Nonmanufacturing	946.5	944.4	685.3	682.9	67.5	67.7	105.1	105.4
Construction	70.0	71.2	61.8	62.8	5.3	5.7	9.0	9.1
Transportation & Public Utilities	55.7	55.7	26.7	26.3	5.0	5.0	7.0	7.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	266.8	265.0	197.3	194.3	22.5	22.4	33.8	34.0
Wholesale Trade	65.6	65.6	37.7	37.4	-	-	-	-
Retail Trade	201.2	199.4	159.6	156.9	-	-	-	-
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	74.7	74.5	40.2	40.2	3.0	2.9	4.9	4.8
Services and Mining	272.4	272.0	203.6	204.6	17.7	17.6	27.2	27.5
Total Government	206.9	206.0	155.7	154.7	14.0	14.1	23.2	23.0
Federal	52.9	53.1	69.5	69.1	1.8	1.7	6.4	6.3
State	64.8	64.6	20.9	20.7	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.5
Local	89.3	88.4	65.4	65.0	8.1	8.2	12.3	12.3

The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Additional industry detail available upon request.
Current data preliminary; previous month revised.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

NOVEMBER, 1987

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOV.'86
MARYLAND	2,404,501	2,403,613	2,305,003	2,306,420	99,498	97,193	4.1	4.0	4.0
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,157,899	1,159,591	1,106,035	1,107,807	51,864	51,784	4.5	4.5	4.6
BALTIMORE CITY	344,298	345,202	320,743	321,257	23,555	23,945	6.8	6.9	7.2
ANNE ARUNDEL	204,089	204,605	197,902	198,219	6,187	6,386	3.0	3.1	3.1
BALTIMORE	382,372	382,345	367,458	368,047	14,914	14,298	3.9	3.7	3.9
CARROLL	57,176	57,372	55,380	55,468	1,796	1,904	3.1	3.3	3.4
HARFORD	74,446	74,324	71,368	71,482	3,078	2,842	4.1	3.8	3.9
HOWARD	81,340	81,544	79,409	79,537	1,931	2,007	2.4	2.5	2.2
QUEEN ANNE'S	14,177	14,201	13,776	13,798	401	403	2.8	2.8	2.7
D. C. AREA	951,978	949,783	923,797	921,383	28,181	28,400	3.0	3.0	2.7
CALVERT	20,477	20,385	19,603	19,552	874	833	4.3	4.1	3.4
CHARLES	43,376	43,163	41,991	41,882	1,385	1,281	3.2	3.0	2.4
FREDERICK	71,227	71,295	69,173	68,992	2,054	2,303	2.9	3.2	2.5
MONTGOMERY	399,960	398,932	390,257	389,237	9,703	9,695	2.4	2.4	2.2
PRINCE GEORGE'S	416,938	416,009	402,773	401,721	14,165	14,288	3.4	3.4	3.1
WESTERN MARYLAND	100,094	99,768	91,917	92,570	8,177	7,198	8.2	7.2	6.8
ALLEGANY	33,228	33,194	29,779	29,963	3,449	3,231	10.4	9.7	7.9
GARRETT	11,864	11,859	10,879	11,004	985	855	8.3	7.2	9.2
WASHINGTON	55,002	54,715	51,259	51,603	3,743	3,112	6.8	5.7	5.6
BALANCE OF STATE	194,528	194,471	183,252	184,661	11,276	9,810	5.8	5.0	5.5
CAROLINE	13,047	13,094	12,474	12,564	573	530	4.4	4.0	4.6
CECIL	33,274	33,118	31,370	31,349	1,904	1,769	5.7	5.3	6.8
DORCHESTER	17,047	17,075	15,934	16,297	1,113	778	6.5	4.6	6.1
KENT	9,058	9,174	8,636	8,792	422	382	4.7	4.2	3.7
ST. MARY'S	35,357	35,019	33,810	33,534	1,547	1,485	4.4	4.2	3.4
SOMERSET	11,355	11,140	10,154	10,360	1,201	780	10.6	7.0	9.3
TALBOT	16,422	16,280	15,902	15,757	520	523	3.2	3.2	2.8
WICOMICO	40,653	40,206	38,489	38,071	2,164	2,135	5.3	5.3	4.8
WORCESTER	18,315	19,365	16,483	17,937	1,832	1,428	10.0	7.4	9.3
[1] UNITED STATES	120,611,000	120,744,000	113,809,000	113,898,000	6,802,000	6,845,000	5.6	5.7	6.6

*Estimates for the state are revised.

[1] Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

Maryland

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